## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

1) DONALD TEMPLE and	)
2) MARY TEMPLE,	)
	)
Plaintiffs,	)
v.	) Case No. 4:18-cv-00041-JED-JFJ
1) STATE FARM FIRE AND CASUALTY COMPANY,	) State Court Case No. CJ-2017-22 District Court of Creek County (Bristow)
Defendant.	) )

## **NOTICE OF REMOVAL**

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1332, 1441, and 1446, Defendant State Farm Fire and Casualty Company, ("State Farm") hereby removes this action from the District Court of Creek County (Bristow), Oklahoma, where it was filed as Case No. CJ-2017-22, to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma. As the grounds for removal, State Farm states as follows:

- 1. On July 7, 2017, Plaintiffs Donald and Mary Temple commenced an action against Defendant State Farm in the District Court of Creek County, in the State of Oklahoma, titled *Donald and Mary Temple v. State Farm Fire and Casualty Company*, Case No. CJ-2017-22 (the "State Court Action").
- 2. Plaintiffs served State Farm on December, 28, 2017, via service on the Oklahoma Insurance Department.
- 3. State Farm is filing its notice of removal on January 17, 2018, which is within the 30-day period provided by 28 U.S.C. § 1446(b).

- Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(a) and Local Rule LCvR 81.2, State Farm has
  attached as exhibits to this Notice of Removal true and legible copies of all
  documents filed or served in the State Court Action. Docket Sheet for state court
  action CJ-2017-00022, in the District Court in and for Creek County, Oklahoma
  (Bristow Division)
- Exhibit 2 Petition, filed July 7, 2017
- Exhibit 3 Motion to Extend Time For Obtaining Service, filed December 20,
   2017
- Exhibit 4 Order granting Plaintiffs' Motion to Extend Time for Obtaining Service.
- Exhibit 5 Summons received by Oklahoma Insurance Department on December 28, 2017
- 4. There are no pending motions in the state court.

#### **Diversity Jurisdiction**

- 5. Plaintiffs allege that they reside in Creek County, Oklahoma. Ex. 2, Pet., ¶ 1.
- 6. State Farm is and was at the time of filing the Petition a citizen of Illinois. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1332(c) ("For the purposes of this section and section 1441 of this title...a corporation shall be deemed a citizen of every State and foreign state by which it has been incorporated and the State or foreign state where it has its principal place of business...."). State Farm is a corporation incorporated under the laws of Illinois with its principal place of business in Bloomington, Illinois. *See also* Ex. 2, Pet., ¶2 (alleging that State Farm is a

{1715688;}

incorporated under the laws of Illinois). Thus, there is complete diversity of citizenship

between the Plaintiffs and Defendant.

7. Plaintiffs further allege that their actual damages exceed \$75,000.00. See

Ex. 2, Pet., ¶¶ 14, 18, 24, 27.

8. Accordingly, the requirements for diversity jurisdiction are satisfied.

**Venue and Notice** 

9. Venue is appropriate in this Court, as this Court is in the district in which the

State Court Action was pending.

10. Written notice of the filing of this Notice of Removal will be given promptly

to counsel for Plaintiff, and a copy of the Notice of Removal will be filed with the Clerk

of the Creek County District Court, as required by 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d).

Accordingly, State Farm removes all claims in the State Court Action from the

District Court for Creek County, Oklahoma, to the United States District Court for the

Northern District of Oklahoma.

Dated: January 17, 2018.

3 {1715688;}

## Respectfully submitted,

#### /s/Mia Vahlberg

Mia Vahlberg, OBA No. 20357 Katherine E. McDonald, OBA No. 32604 GABLEGOTWALS 1100 ONEOK Plaza 100 W. Fifth Street Tulsa, OK 74103-4217 (918) 595-4800 (918) 595-4990 (fax) mvahlberg@gablelaw.com kmcdonald@gablelaw.com

COUNSEL FOR DEFENDANT STATE FARM FIRE AND CASUALTY CO.

# **CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I do hereby certify that on January 17, 2018, a true, correct and exact copy of the above and foregoing document was served via CMECF and by U.S. first class mail to those parties listed below:

Lee I. Levinson Terrence P. Brennan Evan McLemore Levinson, Smith & Huffman, P.C. 1743 E. 71st Street Tulsa, OK 74136-5108

/s/ Mia Vahlberg

Mia Vahlberg

{1715688;}